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BEST THINGS TO DO THIS WEEKEND. 4

# IT'S GOING TO BE A *magical weekend*

Chestnut Hill's Witches & Wizards Festival kicks off this weekend and will feature plenty of unique and fun activities for all ages. 5

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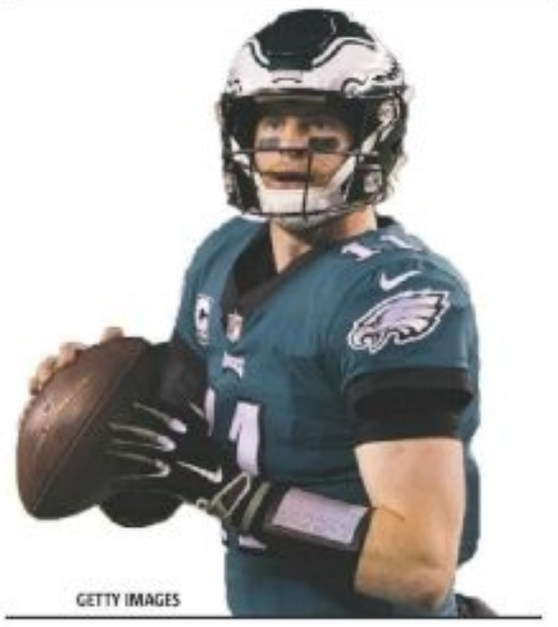

GETTY IMAGES

## PRIMETIME IN BIG D

Eagles look to take first place in NFC East in Sunday night. 20

## 'GEMINI MAN'

Will Smith faces himself in new Ang Lee thriller. 21

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# *The Lighthouse* is a commanding, hypnotic romp filled with menace

We spoke with director Robert Eggers ahead of the film's premiere this weekend

JAMES CASE

There's a moment early in "The Lighthouse" when you realize there's actually going to be dialogue and feel a sense of relief. It's not as if would be a bad thing if it was made as a near-silent film. It's that the range of potential artistic decisions are so wide, that a film without dialogue would be plausible. It's that the amount of dread this would contribute, stacked against the dread from the premise and the vibe, would be too weighty. Within "The Lighthouse" there is a sense that older things carry more weight time and tradition carries an immense burden. This dread, this feeling of humans being owned and defined by our near and distant pasts figured heavily into Robert Eggers' first film, "The Witch".

On the sophist's surface, there's an observable level of pretension. It's black and white. A tremendous amount of thought and research has been put into the details. Thankfully this feeling comes across naturally. Everything feels organically "old-world". Nothing feels put upon or forced - every detail is deliberate. "It's incredibly satisfying to do a tremendous amount of research and to get lost in these worlds," Eggers said, "and to create a world physically or recreate my own interpretation."

"The Lighthouse" uses this ornamentation for atmosphere. Once the stage is set – and it is a very unruly, vile and vulnerable stage – we're quickly on little island far off the coast.

"The Lighthouse" is centered by the experiences and perspectives of its two leads. The plot is easy enough to summate. In 1890's New England, two men (the equally marvelous Robert Pattinson and Willem Dafoe) are assigned to work for six weeks on a remote lighthouse. They gradually begin to lose their footing with each other and with their grip on reality.

There are two sets of tasks at hand for the men. One is physically taxing, mundane and for the most part humiliating – at one point a character equivocates the work to slavery. The other set of tasks is one of privilege and unusual hours: the actual work of operating the lighthouse. They are supposed to alternate tasks on a daily basis. However, the senior man (Dafoe), who's experienced working in lighthouses dictates to the younger man (Pattinson) that they will not be exchanging tasks and under no circumstances can he operate or see the lighthouse. There is no one for the younger man to complain to. He's stuck with the older man.

The sequences are commanding enough that they don't need to pretend to seek resolution or 100% plot coherence – they are part of one thematic whole, a brutal, turbulent, old-world New England whole. In lesser hands than Pattinson and Dafoe, the roles would be overplayed and the whole thing would be silly. The whole story is grounded by the unique voice of Eggers, who broke through in cinema by working on gritty sets over the years until he got his chance to tell his own stories. This film couldn't be made by someone with a silver spoon or from a place of privilege: the best elements of "The Lighthouse" stem from hard work and passion.

"I know that the fortune I have is precarious," Eggers said, "and there's a lot of hard work that goes into my life every day, but I also know that part of it is luck. Being said no to so many times in my life and being laughed at and told I'd never make it so many times, that you use some humility, but the hunger and the drive to create is so powerful that it gives me the confidence to keep going."

We don't know either of their names or identities until nearly midway, but at that point, you're not sure how long you've been watching them on this island to begin with, and you quickly realize that it doesn't matter – the nature of a name or a backstory could be entirely feigned by either man. A name is as good as a sticker on a shirt, that could be removed or replaced.

As the story progresses and their moral compasses degrade or are reset, and as their backstories change or their identities shift, it becomes clearer that we are not defined by who we say we are or where we come from, but we're defined strictly by our actions and decisions. Their language becomes guttural. Their desires become base. They are continuously disgusted and enamored with one another – they entirely need each other for the second half of the film, but absolutely cannot stand being in the same room with one another without the aid of alcohol or any substance they can glean to tolerate their isolation and the discontiguous daily life.

"The Lighthouse" is cinema at its most vital. It's funny and absolutely tense all the way through. Its characters are wholly familiar and at the same time absolute strangers. It has profound moments of human relation and has bawdy (completely memorable and quotable) sophomoric diatribes. It dances between human transcendence and mundane, brutal reality. "The Lighthouse" is the kind of film that can only be totally experienced.

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# YOUR WEEKEND STARTS NOW

Looking for some fun and unique things to do in Philly this weekend? We've got you covered.

**SHOPPING**

## CLOVER MARKET

Philadelphians, get ready to shop 'til you drop at the traveling Clover Market. This popular shopping mecca features an interesting and unique mix of vendors selling plenty of handmade goods, artistic trinkets, colorful gifts and more while setting up shop in different parts of the area. This weekend, Clover Market will be stopping in Collingswood and everyone is invited to check out the interesting offerings this market provides. **Oct. 20, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 735 N. Atlantic Ave., free, theclovermarket.com**

## PHILLY SPECIAL POP-UP

Men, this time the shopping is all for you. This weekend, the Philadelphia-based menswear label American Trench and menswear store Franklin & Poe are teaming up to host The Philly Special: A Curated Outdoor Pop-up Experience. Guests can browse the impressive selection of new and discounted goods from American Trench, Franklin & Poe, Red Wing Shoes, Manready Mercantile and more while sipping on coffee from ReAnimator Coffee and treats from Hello Donuts while at the unique pop-up. **Oct. 19, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., NKCDC Garden, 1825 Frankford Ave, Philadelphia, franklinandpoe.com**

**FOOD & DRINKS**

## GLOBAL CHAMPAGNE DAY

Friday is truly a bubbly occasion. Global Champagne Day is October 18 and to celebrate a.kitchen+bar is offering a tasty assortment of delicious champagnes at a discounted price. A few selections include: Ployez-Jacquemart Extra Quality Brut Champagne for $60 (normally $120 a bottle); Christophe Mignon Brut Nature Meunier Blanc de Noirs $69 (normally $138 a bottle); Marie Courtin Champagne Extra Brut 'Efflorescence' $100 (normally $200 a bottle) and more. Chef Eli Collins will also be offering a specialty menu including a waffle rösti accompanied by full caviar service (market price), a seafood plateau served with lobster crab claws and a marinated seafood salad ($75) and more. **Oct. 18, reservations available, a.kitchen+bar, 135 S 18th St., Philadelphia, prices vary, akitchenandbar.com**

Weckerly's "Pardon Rye French." PROVIDED

## WECKERLY'S ICE CREAM COLLABORATION

This weekend marks the first edition of a year-long series of collaborations with Weckerly's Ice Cream and notable Philly culinary connoisseurs. First up is Pat O'Malley, Co-Owner and Pastry Chef of Hungry Pigeon. O'Malley and Weckerly's Ice Cream Co-Owner and Pastry Chef Jen Satinsky teamed up to create a brand new sweet treat: the "Pardon Rye French" ice cream sandwich. The delicious dessert is made with homemade cream candy scattered throughout house cultured creme fraiche ice cream sandwiched between a rye bread/shortbread cookie and slathered with concord grape jam. The sandwich and a limited run of scoops will debut at the Weckerly's shop this Friday. A portion of all sales will also go to The Fund for the School District of Philadelphia. **Oct. 18, Weckerly's Ice Cream, 9 W Girard Ave., price varies, weckerlys.com**

**ARTS & CULTURE**

## OCTOBER GHOST TOURS

With Halloween right around the corner, there are plenty of spooky happenings occurring around the City of Brotherly Love during the month of October. Join in on one of the most unique tours in Philly and uncover burial grounds, haunted mansions, unsolved mysteries and much more. This candlelit tour will be happening nightly throughout the month of October; tours depart every night from Signers' Garden at 5th and Chestnut streets. Any Philadelphian who wants to join in on all of the ghostly fun can save $5 on tickets by signing up online. **Nightly through Oct. 31, 7:30-9 p.m., Signers' Garden, 5th and Chestnut, $11-$19, ghosttour.com**

## DAVID YOUNG AND "THE BATTLES OF GERMANTOWN"

David Young, author of "The Battles of Germantown," will be at the Philadelphia City Institute this weekend to discuss his historically interesting book. "The Battles of Germantown" examines valuable lessons learned from Philadelphia's Germantown neighborhood to help the public engage with the past. The rich historical event and discussion cannot be missed if you are a history buff or even just a curious mind. **Oct. 19, 3 p.m., Philadelphia City Institute, 1905 Locust St., libwww.freelibrary.org**

**FAMILY**

## READING TERMINAL MARKET HARVEST FESTIVAL

Head to the bustling Reading Terminal Market this weekend to check out their colorful Harvest Festival. The Festival will feature local fall fare from the Market's merchants, hayrides, games, live animals from the Philadelphia Zoo, live music, fall-themed activities, a beer garden and much more. All of Filbert Street by the Market will be closed off for the event and the fun kicks off at 10 a.m. **Oct. 19, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Reading Terminal Market, 51 N 12th St, Philadelphia, readingterminalmarket.org**

**GOING OUT**

## 23RD STREET ARMORY OKTOBERFEST

The largest Oktoberfest in the city is back this weekend, and this year promises to be the largest celebration yet. The Armory's Oktoberfest will feature three sessions chock full of authentic Oktoberfest fare from Brauhaus Schmitz's Executive Chef Valentin Bay, tons of beer that will fill your stein to the brim, live entertainment a ceremonial keg tapping and much more. **Oct. 18, times vary, 23rd Street Armory, 22 S 23rd St., Philadelphia, $25-$85, brauhausschmitz.com**

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# Everything you need to know about the *Witches & Wizards Festival*

Chestnut Hill transforms into an enchanted village Oct. 18-19. **MADELINE PRESLAND**

Practice your incantations and dust off your trusty broomstick. The annual Witches & Wizards festival returns to the charming Chestnut Hill neighborhood this weekend. Thousands of spellcasters, potion brewers and general mischief makers will roam Germantown Ave. and the surrounding area in search of food and fun. The festival includes free and ticketed activities for magical beings of all ages. Here's everything you need to know about Chestnut Hill's weekend of witchcraft and wizardry.

**FOR THE ADULTS**

For sorceresses and warlocks ages 21 and over, the festival kicks off with the annual Brews and Broomsticks Pub Crawl on Friday night. Dress up in your wizard robes or your Halloween costume to visit some of the best bars and restaurants on Germantown Ave. The enchanting pub crawl includes live entertainment and themed menus at the participating bars. Sip on beer and cocktail specials while enjoying food like dragon fire wings, butterscotch popcorn and smoked turkey legs. Pub crawl tickets are $25 and purchasing tickets in advance is strongly recommended.

Put your skills to the test in the Chestnut Hill Escape Room to solve The Haunting of Chestnut Hill this weekend. In this mystery adventure, you and your team have 60 minutes to find the clues to help a trapped spirit find peace and free them from the loft they currently haunt. Up to eight participants can rent this room as a team for $200.

**FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY**

Fun for kids and families begins on Saturday. Head to Germantown Ave. to be in the middle of the action for magically delicious food, live entertainment and all the games starting at 12 p.m. On the street, you'll see aerialists from the Secret Circus, actors dressed in magical garb, and face painters.

Head to the Witches & Wizards festival this weekend. CHESTNUT HILL BUSINESS DISTRICT

Get ready for spells and mischief at the popular Hocus Pocus Headquarters. This ticketed section of the festival is set up for little witches and wizards to get in the Halloween spirit. Play ping-pong pumpkin, explore the insectarium and enjoy a variety of spooky crafts. Admission to the tent is $10 in advance and $12 the day of. For a free pop up, don't miss the bouncies, a live DJ and wizard chess at the Jenks Academy at 8301 Germantown Ave.

To make the most of the festival, wander up and down Germantown Ave. to find a variety of activities. The beautiful campus at Chestnut Hill College (9220 Germantown Ave.) transforms into Hogwarts for the all-day Brotherly Love Quidditch Tournament starting at 10 a.m. Watch college Quidditch teams compete against each other on the field and take a walk on the college's grounds. Head to Woodmere Art Museum (9201 Germantown Ave.) to check out the straw maze to play in the structure and see a mini circus. Students from Circadium: School of Contemporary Circus will demonstrate juggling, acrobatics and balancing acts up close.

*The Witches & Wizards Festival is a mix of free and ticketed activities. Visit chestnuthillpa.com to purchase tickets, view all activities and find transportation information.*

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# What to check out this weekend at *POST*

This weekend closes the annual Philadelphia Open Studio Tour. MOLLY GIVEN

Every year the Philadelphia Open Studio Tour gives art-hungry Philadelphians the chance to step behind the scenes, get an inside look and become part of the action at an impressive number of studios and workshops. The artists vary by year, but the quality does not. Every annual edition of the POST program offers a unique outlook and one-of-a-kind access, and with 2019 being the 20th anniversary of the tour, this year promises to be the best one yet.

POST happens over the course of two weekends, and each day highlights a different area of the city (Oct. 19, Northwest, and Oct. 20 West). The self-guided tour is free for all who are interested, and since POST is the largest open studio tour in the region, taking advantage of this behind-the-scenes event is highly recommended for all art lovers and culture connoisseurs.

With a plethora of visits, hands-on demonstrations, workshops, artist talks, discussions, receptions, guided tours, featured exhibitions and more, it can be a bit overwhelming when choosing what stops to check out. This weekend will feature plenty of rich and diverse artists to choose from, but here are a few highlights to help make narrowing down where to go that much easier.

**SYD CARPENTER**
Carpenter's sculpture work is truly a treat for the eyes and utilizes natural elements highlighting the cultivation of the land. Carpenter is also a Professor of Studio Art at Swarthmore College and her captivating works can be found in various public and private collections.
*Check it out: Oct. 19, 536 Carpenter Lane*

**MATTHEW COURTNEY**
If you want an interesting exhibit with a fun outlook, check out Matthew Courtney's work this weekend. Courtney's clay sculptures vary in shapes and sizes but all hold a natural and interesting outlook utilizing clay's natural tendencies.
*Check it out: Oct. 19, 322 Salaignac Street*

**JOHN SCHLESINGER**
Schlesinger's work is truly unique and unlike any art exhibit out there. The photographer turned sculptor produces illuminated works of art that truly catch the eye and pique curiosity. Many of Schlesinger's works have won awards and also have been featured in notable art publications.
*Check it out: Oct. 20, GreenLine Studios, 4218 Lancaster Avenue*

**PHILLIP ADAMS**
Adams' paintings and drawings create an interesting outlook on our relationship with the environment. Adams utilizes charcoal and graphite to showcase his unique artistic snapshots and eyecatching creations.
*Check it out: Oct. 20, GreenLine Studios, 4218 Lancaster Avenue*

*All participating studios and workspaces will be open from 12 pm-6 pm on assigned tour days. For more information visit philopenstudios.org*

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# Will Smith, face to face with himself in *'Gemini Man'*

Ang Lee's "Gemini Man" starring Will Smith is already in theaters CATALINA FORERO, MWN

If you were to meet face to face with yourself from 20 years ago, what would you say? That's partly the essence of this action film that tells the story of Henry Brogan (Will Smith), an experienced hit man who's ready to leave the world of crime behind but first has to conquer an unexpected obstacle: a younger clone of himself out to kill him.

"It's an Ang Lee film, with Jerry Bruckheimer and Will Smith, what did you expect?", says between laughs the Oscar-winning director. "I think it's an action movie with a bit of science fiction, but it's a drama at heart."

The film, on the drawing board since 1997, had been archived because the technology of the moment was not enough to achieve what Jerry Bruckheimer and his team of producers had in mind. The idea was retaken in 2018 and under Lee's command, effects never seen before were used to create this clone starring Gemini Man. At a press junket in Los Angeles, California, in which Metro was present, Will Smith and Ang Lee talked about the already worldwide released film.

**Besides the action, what does this movie tell us about our relationship with our past selves?**

***Will Smith:*** It was really amazing for me to do this. The team brought all this material from my past works, and I could see all the tragedies that I have committed in the world of entertainment. ["Laughs"] But you know? It's really wonderful to be able to see myself that way; see the parallel between youth and experience and think: how old would I really like to be again if I could? My twenties stunk, so I'm not going anywhere near twenty [Laughs] ... maybe my thirties, but in reality, it's beautiful to have the possibility to explore that. In my twenties I would had never said that they stunk, but now I am much more relaxed and comfortable in my own skin.

**Let's talk about technology. We have seen several films in which digital rejuvenation elements are used, how can you specifically describe what was done in Gemini Man and how this is different from what has already been done?**

***Ang Lee:*** I would like to clarify that we did not rejuvenate the character. We were not giving brush strokes to hide the passing of years in someone. What we did was create a new character, which looks like a young Will Smith, which is probably not exactly how people remember him at that age and that could act like that, although I have to say that the biggest 'problem' we had is that Will is a much better actor now than 30 years ago.

***Will Smith:*** Ang told me, when I was looking at Junior (Will's young character): 'I need you to act less well', then he would show me some of my old performances and say: 'Look at this, that's not good acting, I need you to do it like that. [Laughs]

***Ang Lee:*** We wanted to create a new character for the film, and that was really the challenge: placing technology on our side. We had a model, but we wanted to make a person. A clone is not a robot, it's a human being with feelings, with a personality, and all the elements that make up a real human so, this was not just an action film, but a drama. We see how it affects him to be attacked by his younger self and what that means, what feelings can arouse in someone. What would happen if you could live twice or if, on the other hand, you could see your future? Does a clone have a soul? Does it have emotions? Do you treat it like a real human being? How do we react to that? All these existential and human questions are hidden here under the layers of action and for me that is very interesting.

**What was the hardest thing to achieve when filming?**

***Will Smith:*** The most difficult thing for me was that in the main shoot we recorded Henry and in the scenes with Junior we had another actor standing in front of me doing his parts so that I could have a reference. At first, it was great because I was Henry all the time, but in the end I had to be Junior, and to do so I entered the motion capture stage, in which I had a helmet and two cameras on my face all the time and, on top of that, I had to repeat all the scenes where they were together, and there it was a little harder to try to connect because I had to go back to the scene and understand where I was at that moment. It was a strange and complicated process, but in the end satisfactory.

**It's a fascinating concept for an action film because Junior is trying to kill Henry and Henry is trying to save Junior from becoming him.**

***Will Smith:*** I really like the idea that the seeds of our worst nightmare grow within ourselves. We ourselves create our worst enemy, in fact, we are our worst enemy. The greatest and most painful difficulties that we are going to go through will be born from the seeds of each one and that concept seems fascinating to me.

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# The Vivian Girls are back, and they're going to teach us a few lessons

We spoke with the influential band ahead of their upcoming tour. KATE WADKINS

"Life's too short not to do the things you wanna do when you can do them," says Katy Goodman. Goodman, bassist of the Vivian Girls, is telling me why and how the band reunited for the first time since their breakup in 2014 to record their new full-length album, "Memory," in secret.

"We had been broken up for about five years and Katy just called me one day and was like, 'Hey, do you want to do the band again?' And I was like, 'Yeah! I'm gonna move to L.A.' And that was pretty much it. It was as easy as that. I was always down to play music with the Vivian Girls again, and I think they knew that," Cassie Ramone, guitarist, elaborates. In this moment, the Vivian Girls bring to mind one of my favorite feminist art pieces by Mary Kelly: "Seemed right… just made sense… like a lightning bolt!"

And it was like a lightning bolt: Goodman and Ramone reunited with drummer Ali Koehler in a way that they all describe as "natural," making it sound as if it were easier to get the band back together than to hold it back.

"It was so much fun. It was one of the best experiences of my life. I felt like Kylie Jenner or something," says Ramone, reminiscing on the band's decision to reunite and record their new album totally in secret – and keep that secret to themselves. Goodman chimes in, "Except Kylie Jenner didn't reveal that she was pregnant until after she gave birth." She continues explaining the rarity of a secret project in 2019: "Especially [now] where every move you make is on your Instagram, everyone knows everything. So it was really cool to partake in something very secretive."

If you close your eyes, you can hear the best parts of the late aughts in the Vivian Girls' "Memory," their dissonant and distinct sound for fans of grunge greats and girl groups alike, music that sounds like it's made for bedroom dancing. Jangly guitars, chords and lyrics connect to a vague yet poignant sense of melancholy. The songs we all danced and swayed to when our favorite DIY clubs were still open; when possibility still felt real in Williamsburg. Dreamily lo-fi. Yet "Memory" sounds bigger than any of their previous recordings. Somehow more deliberate.

It's the Vivian Girls grown up. Ramone describes personal hardships and a sense of humility that permeate a new way of being for the band. There's a slowing down. "I really like that we have this long lead time...instead of trying to hit the ground running while doing a million other things," says Koehler.

"Back when we were an active band, we were writing songs on tour, then on our week off from tour we'd record a new album; everything right on top of one another, no breaks," adds Goodman. They describe this current iteration as "a lot less urgent."

And that's the beauty of a comeback: the Vivian Girls embodied much of what the New York scene was in 2007-2014. A group that started out playing DIY shows from the basements of New Brunswick, New Jersey to the punk houses of Brooklyn, and eventually toured the world, signing to Polyvinyl Records. Now, they return to each other, to what they've created together.

As the Vivian Girls head out on the road, they can't wait to play live again. "I am very excited to play shows again," says Goodman, definitively. "We've all played a lot of shows since Vivian Girls broke up, but there's nothing quite like a Vivian Girls show for me. No other show can compare."

*Make sure to catch Vivian Girls at First Unitarian Church this Sunday, October 20. 2125 Chestnut Street*

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# *Fun things to do in Philly this month*

18

### 23rd Street Armory Oktoberfest
**Oct. 18**

Prost! Head to the 23rd Street Armory to join in on all of the large pretzel, stein-drinking fun during one of the largest Oktoberfests in the city. **Oct. 18-19, times vary, 23rd Street Armory, 22 S. 23rd St., prices vary**

20

### Taste of Philly Food Festival
**Oct. 20**

Sample fantastic food, craft beer and top-shelf liquor from some of Philadelphia's best restaurants and breweries at this tasty event.
**Oct. 20, 5 pm-9 pm, Crystal Tea Room, 100 E Penn Sq., $30+**

24

### Twenty One Pilots
**Oct. 24**

The popular musical duo is coming to Philly to perform some of their greatest hits including "Stressed Out," "Ride" and "Heathens."
**Oct. 24, 7 pm, Wells Fargo Center, 3601 S Broad St., $70+**

26

### South Street Pumpkin Festival
**Oct. 26**

Head down to South Street to indulge in a day filled with pumpkins, live performances, family activties, tasty treats and more.
**Oct. 26, 12 m-5 pm, Headhouse/Shambles, 2nd St, free**

28

### Logic
**Oct. 28**

The "Sucker for Pain" singer will be coming to the City of Brotherly Love to perform some of his greatest hits and new tracks.
**Oct. 28, 7:30 pm, Met Philadelphia, 858 N Broad St.,$30-$100**

29

### Manayunk Cocktail Week
**Oct. 29**

Head to Manayunk the last week in October to sample tasty cocktail creations, indulge in drink specials and much, much more.
**Oct. 29, times vary, various locations in Manyaunk, prices vary**

8

### Elton John
**Nov. 8**

Head to the Wells Fargo Center to watch the Piano Man himself perform some of his greatest hits including "Tiny Dancer" and "Your Song"
**Nov. 8, 8 pm, Wells Fargo Center, 3601 S Broad St, prices vary**

ALL IMAGES GETTY IMAGES

2

### The Great Harvest Cider & Beer Festival
**Nov. 2**

Head down to South Philly to indulge in a day full of cider, beer and fun at Hawthornes Beer Cafe's annual spirited extravaganza.
**Nov. 2, 11 am-8 pm, Hawthornes Beer Cafe, 738 S 11th St, free**

7

### "Harry Potter" Quizzo at TheBourse
**Nov. 7**

Calling all Potter-heads, it's time to test your magic, potion and spell knowledge during this mystical and fun quizzo extravaganza.
**Nov. 7, 6 pm-8 pm, The Bourse, 111 S Independence Mall E, free**

9

### Nikki Glaser
**Nov. 9**

The hilarious comedian is hitting the stage in the City of Brotherly Love fresh off of the release of her new Netflix comedy special.
**Nov. 9, 9:45 pm, Punch Line Philly, 33 E Laurel St, $28-$50**

11

### Pizza After Dark
**Nov. 11**

Head to Pizzeria Vetri to learn how to make your own pizza masterpiece while sipping on wine and beer and munching on tasty desserts.
**Nov. 11, 7:30 pm, Pizzeria Vetri, 1615 Chancellor St, $45**

14

### "How I Met Your Mother" Slapsgiving Quizzo
**Nov. 14**

Head to The Bourse to test your "How I Met Your Mother" knowledge with five challenging and fun rounds of quizzo during this colorful event.
**Nov. 14, 6 pm, The Bourse, 111 S Independence Mall E, free**

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# 'It's about relationships, it's about love and it's about ordinary people in somewhat mysterious circumstances'

Bebe Neuwirth gives Metro the scoop on her new role in PTC's "A Small Fire"

MOLLY GIVEN

Bebe Neuwirth ANTHONY WERHUN

Tony-award winner Bebe Neuwirth is lighting a fire in the City of Brotherly Love this month – "A Small Fire" that is. Neuwirth is hitting the stage (Oct. 18- Nov. 10) in Philadelphia Theatre Company's latest production, and to the New Jersey native, this show is simply beautiful. The production itself examines ordinary people who go through quite bizarre circumstances and how one woman's life begins to change forever after a mysterious illness afflicts her. Neuwirth sat down with Metro to give the scoop on the show and what she hopes audiences take away from the production.

**You have an extensive career in theater, how did you end up taking on this role in "A Small Fire?"**

I started out as a dancer on Broadway for the last forty-something years. Concurrent with that I've also worked in television and film, but the theater work has always been there and I've always kept up with it, that's never gone away. In fact, my very first job was with "A Chorus Line" at the Forrest Theater in 1978. My friend Paige Price runs the theater, and we talked about working together and doing something, so she sent me a few plays. This play, " A Small Fire" is just an incredible play and I immediately told her I would love to talk more about it.

**How would you describe the show?**

It's about relationships, it's about love and it's about ordinary people in somewhat mysterious circumstances. It's about a lot of very big things and everyday things— I think it's a very beautifully written play, it's very theatrical in its simplicity. The language is skillful, the structure is skillful and I think it's very beautiful that the characters are interesting and what happens to the characters is also very interesting. I don't want to give anything away or apply any adjectives to it. I want people to have their own experience of the play and find whatever it is that they find about it. I don't want to tell them what to feel or tell them what to look for, but I can tell you it's not a big plastic comedy, so don't come expecting that. There is humor in it, but there is also pathos — I really feel like there's everything in it. But it's a subtle nuance and deceptively simple, it's there but it's quite rich. The language, the structure, the relationships and how fair and seemingly simple it is – I just think it's an extremely well-written play. The more I rehearse it and the more I study it the more admiration I have for the writers.

**What about your character specifically?**

The nuts and bolts of it are that she is a very successful woman who owns and runs her own construction company. She's been the boss of that company for some years. She has a husband, and one child, and her daughter is about to get married. This mysterious kind of bizarre illness happens to her and it's increasingly debilitating. Those are the bare facts of what happen to her.

**Overall what do you hope audiences take away from the show?**

No matter what the show is or what the performance is, I hate to say it, but I just hope the audience has a good time. It sounds really simple but I hope that they are engaged and I hope they have an experience that is more than just a surface experience. I hope that we're good enough to have it go to a place in them that's meaningful.

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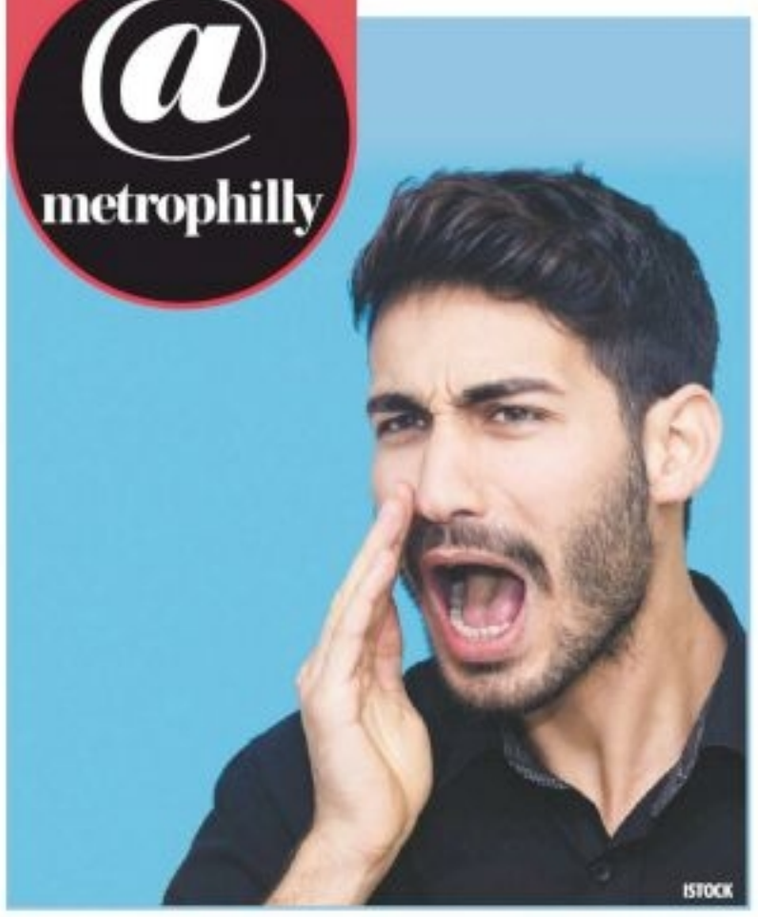


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Jim, *Metro Boston reader*

# the Grumble

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**Aries** Don't let outside influences get to you. Listen, observe and look for ways to work with whatever situation unfolds.

**Taurus** Keep your life simple and affordable. Indulgence should not put you in a situation that leaves you financially, emotionally or physically vulnerable.

**Gemini** Activities that challenge you will also keep you out of trouble. Sign up for a tournament or attend a sports event or rally that interests you.

**Cancer** Don't let your temper take control. Look for the good in everyone and in every situation. Don't reject the unknown or unfamiliar.

**Leo** Accept the inevitable and go about your business. If you help others, you will end up helping yourself as well.

**Virgo** Get together with people who make you feel good. Love, romance and family fun should be your top priorities.

**Libra** Have a checklist ready to ensure that you don't leave anything undone.

**Scorpio** Spend more time doing what pleases you. Having a happy and healthy attitude is dependent on how you treat yourself.

**Sagittarius** Embrace positive people and those who offer truth, fairness and equality. If something sounds too good to be true.

**Capricorn** Put everything in order. Running a tight operation will ensure peace of mind.

**Aquarius** Someone will reveal information you didn't want to be made public. Damage control will work wonders if you are quick to counter with a valid explanation.

**Pisces** The help you offer others will lead to new opportunities. A moneymaking venture looks exciting and could bring positive changes your way. **EUGENIA LAST**

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Director Ruben Fleischer, GETTY IMAGES

# Why did it take so long for 'Zombieland: Double Tap?'

Director Ruben Fleischer walks us through it.

GREGORY WAKEMAN
Gregory.Wakeman@metro.us

"Zombieland: Double Tap" has had a long journey from script to screen. It's ironic, because it took Sony no time to greenlight the follow-up to 2009's "Zombieland."

The box office figures for the original zombie comedy's opening night were so impressive that writers Rhett Reese and Paul Wernick were actually hired for a sequel within a week of the original's release. But while they initially wrote a sequel set immediately after the events of the original, they couldn't get the script quite right. Then Jesse Eisenberg, Emma Stone, Woody Harrelson and Abigail Breslin became immensely popular, acquiring six Oscar nominations between them since the release of "Zombieland," with Stone actually winning Best Actress for "La La Land."

"Everytime they won Oscars or were nominated we just thought, 'We're dead. We're never getting them back together,'" co-writer Paul Wernick tells Metro. Ultimately, though, he believes their love for "Zombieland," and the fact that everyone involved had such a great time working on it, convinced them to return.

Wernick is aware how "crazy" it is they found time in Eisenberg, Harrelson, Stone and Breslin's hectic schedules. "These are some of the finest actors of our generation and they're doing a zombie movie. Not only a zombie movie, they're doing a sequel to a zombie movie."

Ruben Fleischer, who made his directorial debut with "Zombieland" but has since followed it up with "30 Minutes or Less," "Gangster Squad" and "Venom," insists that all four of the actors had to return "in order for" Wernick, his writing partner Reese and the filmmaker himself "to pursue" the sequel, as "it wouldn't have been the same without them."

Ultimately, they landed on a story revolving around Breslin's Little Rock running away with a hippie to a safe haven on the other side of the country. Tallahassee, Columbus and Wichita soon set off to find her, but their task becomes particularly perilous when it is revealed that the zombies have now evolved and are even more dangerous.

Not only was Fleischer excited to return to the non-traditional and rule-breaking style that made the original so appealing, he also wanted to play with the visuals of a post-apocalyptic world ten years in the future. "I wanted to really portray a world where nature had come back. The White House is covered in vines, roads are covered in weeds. That was really cool to design. I also wanted to create some real action sequences."

The most impressive of these is a prolonged fight at an Elvis-themed hotel, and after his work on "Venom," Fleischer was much more confident and knowledgable about how and where to subtly incorporate visual effects. Fleischer was particularly thrilled to work with the beloved foursome, too.

"My biggest self-imposed rule with this was about making sure the cast was just as amazing as it could be," he explains. "Part of what works so well is how distinctive each of the comedic voices are."

"Jesse is neurotic, his energy is so different to Woody's cowboy spirit. Emma's super sarcastic Wichita couldn't be more different to Zoey Deutch's Madison, who is really earnest, naive and has real puppy dog energy. That is a great counterbalance."

While it is great to see Eisenberg, Harrelson, Stone and Breslin working their magic again, Deutch steals every scene she is in as the dim-witted survivor they meet in a mall.

"Zoey came in guns blazing," says Fleischer. "Even though this is a pretty intimidating cast to come into, she blew everyone's minds with how funny she was."

But while Reese expects "Double Tap" to provide ample laughs and scares, he wants viewers to "feel like they are putting back on a warm comfy sweater when return to this world." For him, Wernick and Fleischer, both "Zombieland" and "Double Tap" are "about family more than anything."

*"Zombieland: Double Tap" is out on Oct. 18.*

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# Elijah Cummings, U.S. civil rights icon who led House probe of Trump, dead at 68

Cummings was a consistent critic of President Trump.

U.S. Representative Elijah Cummings, a civil rights champion who over the last quarter century became one of the most influential Democrats in Congress and a key figure in the impeachment inquiry into President Donald Trump, died on Thursday. He was 68.

A powerful speaker with a formidable presence, Cummings had clashed with Trump on subjects ranging from congressional oversight of the White House to Trump's attacks on Cummings' native city of Baltimore, which the president called "rat-infested."

Cummings responded in a speech early in August at the National Press Club, saying that high-level government officials should "stop invoking fear, using racist language and encouraging reprehensible behavior."

Cummings died of "complications concerning longstanding health challenges," his office said in a statement. He had been absent recently from Congress, to which he was first elected in 1996.

The barrel-chested Cummings was the son of African-American sharecroppers. He rose to lead the powerful House Oversight and Reform Committee, one of three congressional panels leading an impeachment inquiry that was launched on Sept. 24, after Trump asked Ukraine to investigate 2020 Democratic presidential rival Joe Biden. The panel has been involved in fights with the Trump administration over subpoenas challenged by the president.

In a time of particularly bitter partisan divide

A plaque is cover by a black ribbon outside the office of Rep. Elijah Cummings in Washington, DC, on October 17, 2019. GETTY IMAGES

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

To satisfy the owner's storage lien, PS Orange Co. Inc. will sell at public lien sale on **October 22 and 23, 2019,** the personal property in the below-listed occupants' leased spaces, which may include but are not limited to: household and personal items, office and other equipment. The public sale of these items will begin at 10:00 AM and continue until all units are sold.

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**10/22/19 • 10:00 AM**

1019 - Anderson, Dominique; 1021 - Williams, Tamika; 1054 - Maldonado, David; 1061 - Ramos, Anthony; 1180 - Sprinkle, Brenda; 2071 - Riggins, Natasha; 2106 - Hamlin, Candice; 2140 - Bellinger, Maya; 2148 - Grone, Kimberly; 2154 - Arroyo, Maritza; 2180 - Castro, Zefforah; 2183 - Pagan Torres, Ana; 2196 - Midenberg Law Firm, Pc Mildenberg, Brian; 2232 - Dawson, Felicia; 2269 - Hayes, Sean; 2331 - Crespo, Cynthia; 2358 - Williams, Shanlaria; 3013 - Brinkley, Harriet; 3018 - Kendrick, Tracey; 3060 - Narcisse, Ceshia; 3112 - Proctor, Kathleen; 3234 - Stine, Marisa; 3237 - Zachary, William; 3333 - Foreman, Carl; 3352 - Johnson, Ora; 3377 - Behlin, Ebony; 3378 - Cruz Rivera, Joyce T; 3412 - Sommerville, William; 4009 - Lopez, Jose

**PUBLIC STORAGE # 29145, 2190 Wheatsheaf Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19137, (215) 309-8042**
**10/22/19 • 11:00 AM**

A038 - Abrams-Ashes, Carol; A050 - Torres, Pamela; A078 - Blaine, Jessica; A087 - Thomas, Naomi; A154 - Harvey, Raymond; A170 - Ford, Freeman; A172 - Dabney, Lois; E105 - Simmons, Angel; E119 - Young, Tiesha; E126 - Murphy, Lakisha; F013 - CHMURA, GREGORY; G003 - Johnston, Veronica

**PUBLIC STORAGE # 24417, 6301 Tacony Street, Philadelphia, PA 19135, (215) 309-8025**
**10/22/19 • 12:00 PM**

B160 - Santiago, David; B162 - Thomas, Joshua; B176 - Denaro, Samantha; B190 - Bean, Bridget; C229 - Loudenslager, Harry; C256 - Grant, Kim Lee; C302 - Cruz, Corliss; C304 - Johnson, Robert; D375 - Coulson, Thomas; D376 - Lorenzo, Joseph; D407 - Pachucki, Karianne; D409 - Dennis, Albert; D432 - Cordero, Yojaira; D438 - Sharif, Hyneefah

**PUBLIC STORAGE # 21808, 7571 Ridge Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19128, (215) 309-8006**
**10/23/19 • 10:30 AM**

C001 - Jones, Adrienne; C041 - Saunders, Melvin; C049 - Howard, Salima; C057 - Keen, Audrey; C123 - Copper, Labria; D010 - Martin, Eric; D044 - Cordery, Ella; D050 - Kaiser, Martin; D107 - Jones, Darryl; D117 - Pettus, Lakeisha; D120 - Talmadge, Alexander; D194 - Rivera, Shanise; D195 - Wright, Seriena; E204 - Karkari, John

**PUBLIC STORAGE # 23222, 1431 Ivy Hill Road, Philadelphia, PA 19150, (215) 309-8053**
**10/23/19 • 11:30 AM**

A207 - Moore, Madinah; A212 - Richmond, Arnold; B306 - Taormina, Andrea; B316 - Saunders, Eugene; C520 - Lee, Tnishia; C523 - Gale, Cynthia; C542 - Cohen, Susan; C633 - Lester, Sheena; C642 - Clay, Venita; D704 - Kearns, Katherine; D721 - Hill, Candace; E1037 - Frazier, Brenda; E908 - Lott, Cleveland; F1248 - Bryant, Tamara; F1260 - Grisham, Andre; G1339 - Jackson, Rosalind; H1526 - Williams, Matthew; H1617 - Irvine, Brian; H1622 - Wescott, Darrell

**PUBLIC STORAGE # 23216, 6225 Oxford Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19111, (215) 253-6093**
**10/23/19 • 12:30 PM**

A124 - Bush, Samantha; A134 - Andrews, Willieta; A142 - Figueroa, Laura; A220 - Valdez, David; A312 - Johnson, Edith; A314 - Brown, Lashae; A356 - Juliao, Kimberly; A405 - Holmes, Amber; A432 - Adams, Walt; A435 - Ammons, Terra; A504 - Jones, Shakima; A512 - Santiago, Veronica; A598 - Davis, Lanee; A609 - Royster, Shynauna; A613 - Rivera, Kimberly; A635 - Fitzgerald, Shawntel; A647 - Howard-Leland, Jane; A700 - Glover, Tashea; A701 - Matias-Fonseca, Joseph; A773 - Elizondo, Alberto; A809 - Ramos, Edgar; A824 - Roane, Donia; B1102 - Wright, Harry; B1110 - Dailey, Justin; B1127 - Cornish, Ayanna; B1202 - Cole, Carolynn; B1308 - Haynes, Sharon; B1641 - Wheeler, Palmer; B1720 - Fisher, Patrick; B1819 - Hayes, Shaniece; C2125 - Johnson, Ernestine; C2220 - Serrano, Jennifer; C2426 - Junior, Kevan; C2516 - Troutman, James; C2805 - Gore, Breana Gore; C2900 - Deleo-Lites, Dolores

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**PUBLIC STORAGE # 22328, 245 West Chester Pike, Havertown, PA 19083, (484) 247-3851**
**October 23, 2019 Time: 10:00 AM**

B039 - Finch, Alesha; B106 - Yun, Jun; B108 - Nestor, Carline; B157 - Furniss, Mary; B182 - Quiles, Alexandra; B204 - Subaran, Candace; C158 - Lites, Jeffrey

**PUBLIC STORAGE # 23101, 8401 Lansdowne Ave, Upper Darby, PA 19082, (484) 268-5971**
**October 23, 2019 Time: 10:00 AM**

A102 - Mcdonald, Andrew; A249 - Stevens, Gary; A254 - Williams, Dawn; A413 - Washington, Aliah; A502 - Sizemore, Reginald; A505 - Blue, William; A618 - Robinson, Nasheya; A654 - Barnes, Boyd; A801 - Beawin, Prince; A805 - Fields, Christopher; B1032 - Klah, Nick; B920 - Behl, Courtney; C9015 - Sprual, Henrietta; C9030 - Henning, Tiffany

**PUBLIC STORAGE # 23421, 6330 Market Street, Upper Darby, PA 19082, (484) 273-0258**
**October 23, 2019 Time: 11:00 AM**

A006 - Russell, Ameena; A021 - Brunson, Desiree; A062 - Jay, Donnie-Michele; A090 - Stevens, Lawrance; A120 - Lucas, Brandon; A172 - Palmer, Ebeny; A190 - Broadway, Malcolm; B272 - Philip, Arnotte; B281 - Williams, Shanell; B286 - Hinson, Renee; B296 - Fromhold, Stephen; B311 - Richards, Donnette; B329 - Facey, Kristie; B332 - Waller, Darlene; B354 - Conyers, Linda; B378 - Grasty, Shirette; B382 - EPPS, MICHELE; B386 - Hall, Watkin; B392 - Collins, Zakiyyah; B407 - Workman, Ella; B417 - Williams, Wanda; B426 - Borden, Juanita; B481 - Brown, Alexis; B483 - Edwards, Martha; B538 - Carter, Kathleen; B572 - Mendez, Dawnecia; B575 - Wilcox, Kendall; C593 - Murray, Shawn; C595 - Graves, Reggie; C651 - Perez, Michelle; C659 - Williams, Jermaine; C683 - Lewis, Donald; C695 - Barr, Brenda; C696 - King, Gloria; C706 - Pattani, Thomas; C707 - Coley, Michael; C716 - Melvin, Ravyn; C748 - Dunbar, Veronica; C807 - Ezekiel, Pamela; C811 - Smalls, Kevin; C828 - Mingo, Heather; C889 - Ruffin, Lawrence; C892 - Brown-White, Cheryl; C905 - Johnson, Helen; C918 - Goodman, Richard

**PUBLIC STORAGE # 08128, 7000 Lindbergh Blvd, Philadelphia, PA 19153, (215) 309-8051**
**October 23, 2019 Time: 01:00 PM**

0033 - CLEMENTS, JEROME; 0054 - Crawford, Tina; 0066 - Ladaf-Anderson, Liam; 0110 - Thomas, Sonovia; 0128 - COONS, LAUREL; 0130 - Hayman, Nique; 0137 - Smalls, Tracie; 0151 - Overton, Valerie; 0166 - Hector, Keisha; 0214 - HILL, DARLENE; 0224 - Austin, Ashley; 0230 - Johnson, Maxmillian; 0258 - Fairfax, Kianna; 0265 - Demby, Kimyetta; 0315 - Demby, Eric; 0326 - Miles, Lewis; 0449 - Edwards, Monique; 0457 - Mccants, Reginald; 0470 - Saunders, Amanda; 0472 - Monroe, Arthur; 0539 - JAMES, CHARLES; 0560 - Cuffie Jr., Wesley; 0576 - West, April; 0577 - KROMAH, FLIKU; 0591 - Autry, Thomas; 0633 - Abdullah, Stacey; 0645 - Bryant, Winston; 0719 - Clark, Chanelle; 0720 - Turner, Jasmine; 0810 - CARROLL-HOLMES, KIMBERLY; 0811 - KENNEDY, VIVIAN; 0819 - Williams, Hiram; 0837 - Islam, Shams; 0847 - Macey, Jonathan; 0855 - Le, Long; 0904 - Jeffreys, Brandon; 0915 - Thompson, Tenia; 0926 - REYNOLDS, CATRINA; 0936 - Greene, April; 0957 - Heath, Sabrina; 1000 - Perry-Beecher, Alexis; 1008 - Coulibaly, Isabelle; 1012 - Combs, Frances; 1056 - Bell, Susan; 1075 - Ewing, Del; 1078 - Ewing, Del

**PUBLIC STORAGE # 08130, 592 Swedesford Road, Berwyn, PA 19312, (484) 626-0120**
**October 24, 2019 Time: 10:00 AM**

1290 - Wright, April

**PUBLIC STORAGE # 29204, 2112 W. Main Street, Norristown, PA 19403, (484) 290-0217**
**October 24, 2019 Time: 10:30 AM**

1179 - Weightman, Christopher; 1220 - Macelak, Christina; 2035 - Grasty, Wendell; 3015 - Taylor, Kenyetta; 3067 - Tailor, Lonnie; 3175 - Scott, Carla; 3191 - Simpkins, Michael; 3204 - Elliott, Learie; 3221 - Elliott, Learie; 3228 - Elliott, Learie; C1027 - Hussar, Christie; D1029 - Steward-Cobbs, Christopher

**PUBLIC STORAGE # 23102, 2025 Chemical Road, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462, (484) 408-0906**
**October 24, 2019 Time: 11:00 AM**

A026 - Baynard, Carla; B058 - AMAOUCHE, Brietta; B077 - Taylor, Nefertiti; E302 - Keefer, Lori; F349 - Quinn, Michael; F403 - Williams, Siloam

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in Washington, top Democrats and Republicans alike voiced praise for Cummings on Thursday.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, a Republican, said flags would be lowered to half-staff at the Capitol building to mark his death.

"In the House, Elijah was our North Star. He was a leader of towering character and integrity, whose stirring voice and steadfast values pushed the Congress and country to rise always to a higher purpose," House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said in a statement.

She recalled that earlier this year, Cummings said: "When we're dancing with the angels, the question will be asked: In 2019, what did we do to make sure we kept our democracy intact?"

Republican Representative Mark Meadows, one of the most conservative members of the House, said on Twitter of his Oversight Committee colleague: "There was no stronger advocate and no better friend than Elijah Cummings."

Cummings told the Washington Post earlier this year that he considered Meadows a good friend, even though they disagreed on almost all issues.

REUTERS

Former President Barack Obama called Cummings "steely but compassionate" and said he "showed us all not only the importance of checks and balances within our democracy, but also the necessity of good people stewarding it."

Cummings was a trial lawyer before being elected to office to represent Baltimore and other parts of central Maryland. He graduated from Howard University and the University of Maryland School of Law.

He spent 14 years in the state legislature, becoming the first African-American to be named state House Speaker Pro Tempore, who presides over the chamber when the Speaker is absent.

When he moved to Congress, he succeeded Kweisi Mfume, who went on to lead the NAACP civil rights group.

This year, Cummings harshly criticized Trump's immigration policy and gave a tongue-lashing to U.S. Department of Homeland Security officials over conditions for migrants detained along the southern border.

Cummings said he had "no doubt" the president was a racist, after Trump attacked four minority congresswomen on Twitter. REUTERS

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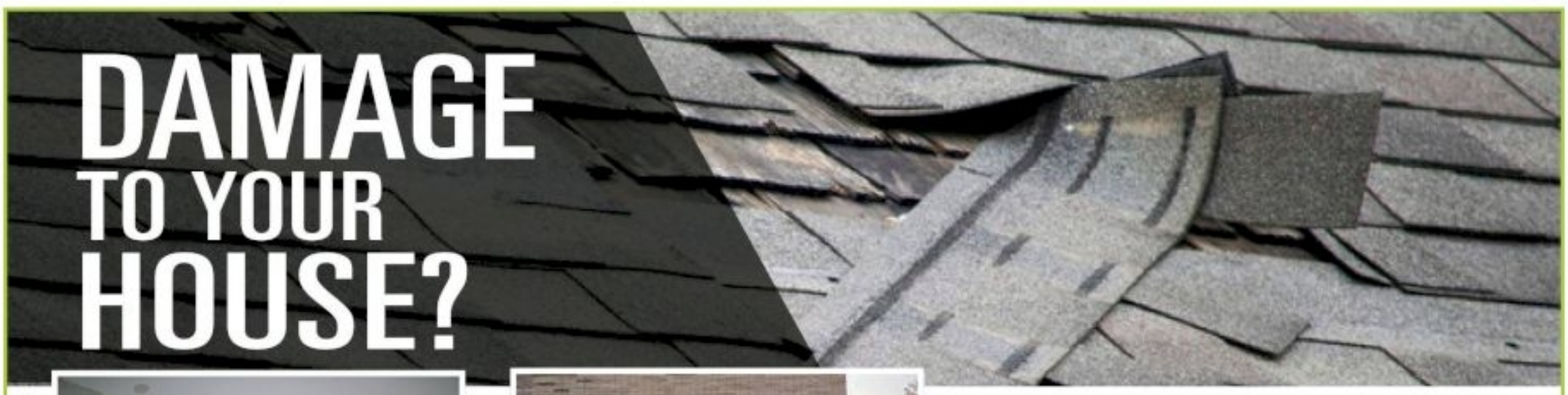

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# EU leaders 'sorry' to see Britain go as Johnson secures Brexit deal

Parliament expected to vote on plans this Saturday.

Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson leaves after a news conference at the European Union leaders summit. REUTERS

European Union leaders unanimously backed a Brexit deal with Britain on Thursday, leaving Prime Minister Boris Johnson facing a battle to secure the UK parliament's backing for the agreement if he is to take Britain out of Europe on Oct. 31.

Speaking after the EU's 27 other leaders had endorsed the deal without Johnson in the room, European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker declared himself pleased that an agreement had been reached but unhappy to see Britain go.

"All in all, I am happy, relieved that we reached a deal," he said. "But I am sad because Brexit is happening."

Those sentiments were echoed by the EU's chief negotiator, Michel Barnier, and by Donald Tusk, president of the European Council, who has been a vocal opponent of Brexit.

"On a more personal note, what I feel today is sadness," Tusk told reporters. "Because in my heart, I will always be a remainer. And I hope that if our British friends decide to return one day, our door will always be open."

British and EU negotiators reached the agreement after successive days of late-night talks and nearly three years of heated discussions that have strained EU-UK ties.

Johnson said he was confident that parliament, which will sit for an extraordinary session on Saturday to vote on the Brexit agreement, would approve the deal.

"When my colleagues in parliament study this agreement they will want to vote for it on Saturday and then in succeeding days," he told reporters.

But the arithmetic in the vote is not simple.

The Northern Irish party that Johnson needs to help ratify any agreement, the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), has refused to support it, saying it is not in Northern Ireland's interests.

The head of the main opposition Labour Party, Jeremy Corbyn, said he was "unhappy" with the agreement and would vote against it. Labour has said it wants any deal to be subject to a public vote, but as yet has not indicated whether it will back any move for a second referendum on Saturday.

REUTERS

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Sibee Blackshear C275 — Tasha Cordero S161
Demaris Zavala D314 — Jilica Silva S751
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**MATT BURKE**

Matt Burke is a veteran sports journalist and the Founder and Editor in Chief of MetroBet.

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This Sunday night's showdown between the Eagles and Cowboys is arguably the most intriguing game on the Week 7 slate as it is something close to a must-win for both sides.

The Eagles are due to get a "W" over Dallas as they've lost their last three meetings against their longtime rivals.

Also pointing to the Eagles at least covering the +3 spread is that the Birds are a respectable 9-8 as road dogs against the spread under Doug Pederson, and that the Cowboys are just 11-14-1 as home favorites ATS under embattled head coach Jason Garrett over the past five seasons.

Overall, across the league, this has also been the year of the road dog.

GETTY IMAGES

Road teams are 56-35-1 ATS in 2019, and straight-up underdogs (home and away) are also exactly 56-35-1.

Spooky.

This should all even out some as the season progresses but until we see a dramatic market correction one of these weeks, let's keep it rolling with the out-of-town doggies.

Carson Wentz should have a strong outing against a Dallas defense that has lost its way. The Cowboys allowed a rusty Sam Darnold to throw for 338 yards and a pair of touchdowns last week in New Jersey. Plus, Wentz is historically excellent against Garrett's Cowboys.

In five previous meetings, Wentz has a sparkling passer rating of 100.7.

*The play: Eagles +3*

**TWEET OF THE DAY**

**Ben Fawkes**
@BFawkesESPN

Interesting note on regional betting habits:
Pearl River Resort in Mississippi says that on some Saturdays, 90 percent of their sports bets are 8-team parlays.
Yes, 90 percent.

## News

# PA sports betting smashes own record

As MetroBet projected last month, the state of Pennsylvania posted a September handle of around $200 million. The exact figure released by the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board this week was $194.5 million in bets taken and the Keystone State grabbed $19.3 million in revenue during the month. The record numbers are no surprise considering September was the first month that the state offered legal online betting on the NFL – easily the most wagered-on league in the United States.

Pennsylvania has now set records in back-to-back months as it posted a $109 million handle in August. The $85 million jump in one month is consistent with the surge that neighboring New Jersey saw last year during the fall when it launched many online books.

As Pennsylvania begins to offer more and more online sportsbook apps, the month-to-month handle is expected to increase – at least through the remainder of football season.

New Jersey Division of Gaming Enforcement David Rebuck, who correctly predicted that New Jersey would seriously challenge Nevada for top billing in the online sports betting space in the United States, said this week that he believes Pennsylvania could soon be considered the sports betting mecca in the U.S..

"Pennsylvania has the opportunity to be the No. 1 jurisdiction in handle today," Rebuck told Gambling.com at the Global Gaming Expo in Vegas. "I say that because they've got 12 million people and two big cities. They have no restrictions on NCAA events. They also border on states that don't have sports betting." MATT BURKE

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**NFL WEEK 7**

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES AT DALLAS COWBOYS -3

ARIZONA CARDINALS AT NEW YORK GIANTS -3

HOUSTON TEXANS AT INDIANAPOLIS COLTS -1

BALTIMORE RAVENS AT SEATTLE SEAHAWKS -3.5

MIAMI DOLPHINS AT BUFFALO BILLS -16.5

MINNESOTA VIKINGS -1.5 AT DETROIT LIONS

OAKLAND RAIDERS AT GREEN BAY PACKERS -5.5

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SPORTS

# Birds, 'Boys meet in vital SNF clash

First-place is on the line when the Eagles head to Dallas.

JOVAN ALFORD
sports@metro.us

After getting dominated in an 18-point loss to the Minnesota Vikings, the Philadelphia Eagles (3-3) will be looking to right their wrongs from against the Dallas Cowboys (3-3) on Sunday Night Football (8:20 p.m. ET, NBC).

Last season, the Cowboys swept the Eagles en route to winning the NFC East crown. However, it appears as if this season's matchups are going to be a toss-up and will decide who wins the division.

When it comes to the Cowboys, they are looking to snap their three-game losing streak after starting the season undefeated. Dallas surprisingly lost to the struggling New York Jets on the road last week, 24-22.

The Eagles, however, are looking to create a brand-new winning streak after getting blitzed by veteran quarterback Kirk Cousins and the Vikings.

The 31-year-old signal-caller completed 76-percent of his passes for 333 yards, four touchdowns, and an interception. While veteran wide receiver Stefon Diggs had the best game of his career with seven receptions (11 targets) for 167 yards and three touchdowns.

Who will step up? To answer that question and more, here are a couple of things to watch for in this primetime showdown.

Carson Wentz (left) and Dak Prescott (right) headline a Sunday-night clash in Dallas. GETTY IMAGES

## WHO STEPS UP AT CB?

As previously stated, the Eagles' secondary had a dreadful performance last Sunday.

Minnesota's offensive coordinator Kevin Stefanski made it a point to attack cornerback Sidney Jones and force Philly's safeties to make decisions on the fly. The Eagles failed to make any adjustments and paid for it consistently.

It appears as if Philly's secondary could be getting a major boost. Starting cornerbacks Ronald Darby and Jalen Mills are practicing this week and could play on Sunday.

Darby is working his way back from a hamstring injury that he suffered in Week 3. Mills, however, has spent the first six weeks on the PUP (physically unable to perform) list due to a foot injury that he suffered late last season.

While Darby and Mills are not Jalen Ramsey, who was acquired in a blockbuster trade by the Los Angeles Rams, they should be able to hold their own against Dallas receivers Michael Gallup, Tavon Austin, etc.

## WENTZ VS. PRESCOTT

With both teams' defenses struggling and possibly without their No. 1 receivers (Amari Cooper and DeSean Jackson) for Sunday night's contest, it will be up to Carson Wentz or Dak Prescott to make the necessary plays to win the game.

Throughout the first six games of the season, there has been this notion that Wentz is one of the reasons why the Eagles' offense is struggling. However, that could not be further from the truth.

Despite not having Jackson and Alshon Jeffery for a couple of games, Wentz is still completing 61.2-percent of his passes for 1,458 yards, 12 touchdowns, and three interceptions. There's only so much he can control from under center.

On the other sideline, Prescott is looking for a hefty contract extension just like Wentz received this summer.

The Cowboys' fourth-year quarterback started the regular season on fire, completing 74.5-percent of his passes along with nine touchdowns, two interceptions, and a quarterback rating of 128.0.

But in his last three games, Prescott's stats dipped to a 65.8-completion percentage, two touchdowns, four interceptions, and a quarterback rating of 82.7.

Therefore, whichever quarterback can get into a rhythm and make the opposing defense pay with big plays, will be in good shape to come out with the victory.

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**Unit 2024**
12:30-1:30
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**Unit 1216-17**
2:00-3:00
Bright, Sunny And Spacious 1 Bedroom With 2 Full Bathrooms Plus A Den

**Unit 1111**
3:00-4:00
Sunny And Spacious Studio Priced To Sell

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4:00-5:00
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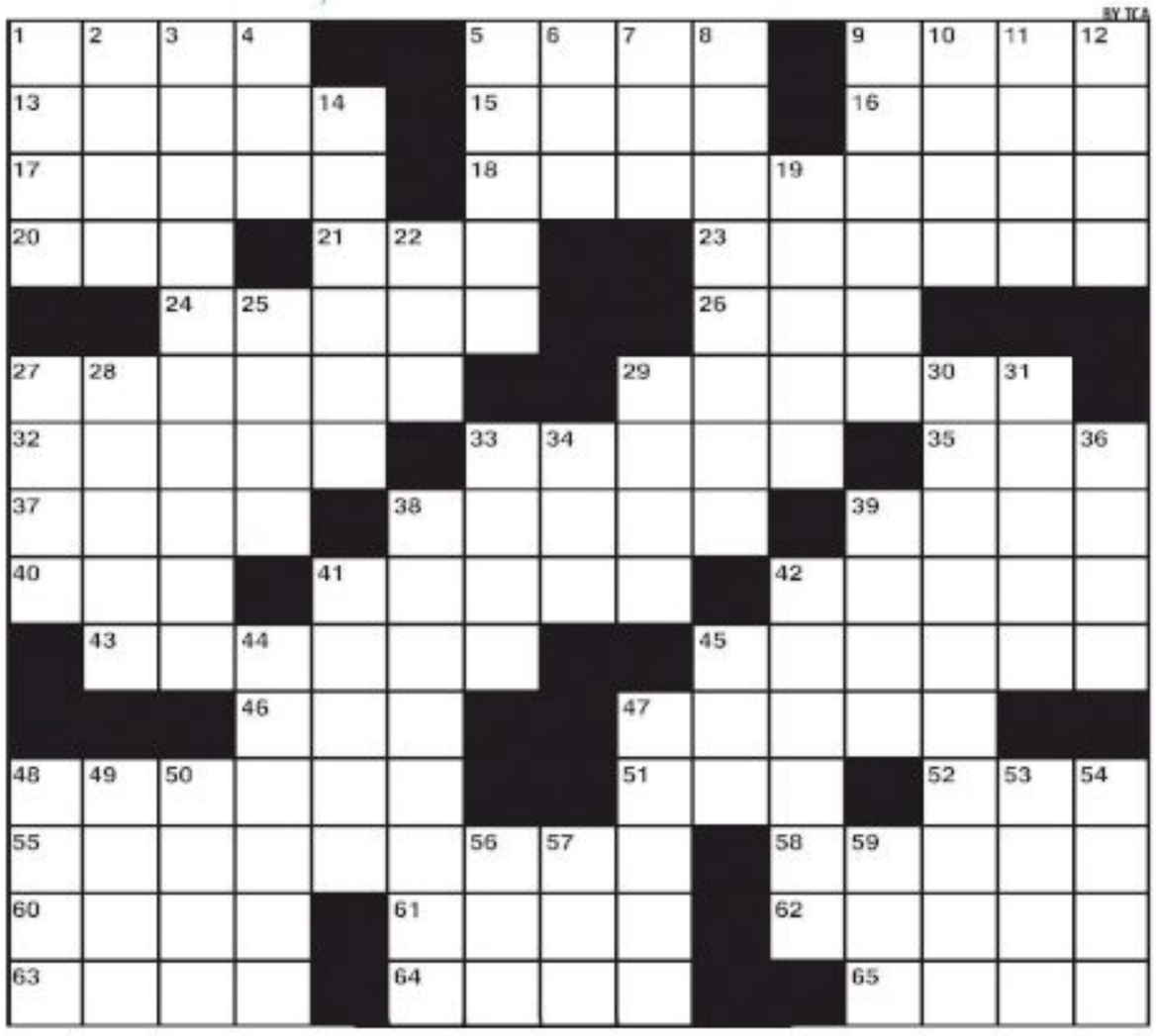
## metro.us/crossword



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**ACROSS**

1 Breathing disorder
5 Ginger __; cookie variety
9 Resound
13 Stay away from
15 Game played on horseback
16 __ off; flaunt
17 Free-for-all
18 Turmoil
20 Ask nosy questions
21 Cylindrical container
23 Piles
24 Snatches
26 Weather forecast
27 Founder's Day event
29 Truthful
32 Furious
33 Shred cheese
35 Bumpkin
37 Pointed ends
38 Appears on the horizon
39 Melt together
40 Hardwood tree
41 Suggestions
42 Industrialist J. Paul __
43 Getaway
45 Punctuation marks
46 Scale divisions: abbr.
47 Stanza
48 Skillful
51 Connecting word
52 ER personnel
55 Gorgeous
58 Pyle or Els
60 Surrounded by
61 Eatery
62 Family tree member
63 Itty-bitty
64 Shoelace problem
65 Get ready, for short

**DOWN**

1 Sleep under the stars
2 Above
3 Lie detector tests
4 Kick the bucket
5 Reaches across
6 Eggy drink
7 Muhammad __
8 Sporadic critical remarks
9 Manor & the land around it
10 Fashionable
11 Fishing line attachment
12 Holds, having purchased
14 Ten years
19 Make amends
22 Actor Vigoda
25 "Phooey!"
27 Stuffed bread
28 Ascend
29 Pork products
30 Dixie resident
31 Sample
33 No longer here
34 Dry __; wood decay
36 Actress Tina's kin
38 Item in a cosmetic kit
39 __ up; admit guilt
41 Customary practice
42 Flower bed
44 __ vision; result of cataracts
45 Lion's hideaway
47 Restaurant car parker
48 As blind as __
49 Actress Moore
50 Picnic spoiler
53 Friendly
54 Ooze out
56 Groupie
57 Eerie saucer, for short
59 __-roaring; noisy & exciting

## metro.us/wordsearch

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| L | A | R | K | I | N | O | R | F | E |
| B | B | N | S | H | O | W | M | A | N |
| O | I | A | S | M | A | U | V | E | D |
| L | O | O | H | C | S | H | G | I | H |
| T | A | G | A | I | N | Y | S | T | W |
| O | D | C | C | J | O | A | L | H | Q |
| N | H | A | I | R | S | P | R | A | Y |
| X | L | Z | T | T | S | I | T | R | A |
| S | E | V | E | N | T | E | E | N | S |
| H | S | R | O | B | H | G | I | E | N |

Again
Artist
Bolton
Disaster
Efron
Hairspray
High School
Larkin
Link
Musical
Neighbors
Seventeen
Showman
Troy
Zac

**Yesterday's Answers**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| W | H | Y | | | O | T | T | E | R | | C | R | A | B |
| R | O | O | T | | R | E | E | V | E | | H | O | S | E |
| Y | O | G | A | | G | A | L | E | S | | E | L | K | E |
| | F | I | R | M | A | M | E | N | T | | R | E | S | T |
| | | | G | U | N | S | | | R | A | Y | | | |
| C | A | R | E | S | S | | S | M | A | L | L | E | S | T |
| E | L | I | T | E | | S | P | O | I | L | | V | I | E |
| A | I | L | S | | A | P | R | O | N | | R | A | G | S |
| S | E | E | | A | G | A | I | N | | D | I | D | N | T |
| E | N | D | U | R | I | N | G | | R | E | C | E | S | S |
| | | | M | E | T | | | R | A | S | H | | | |
| S | H | O | P | | A | S | S | O | C | I | A | T | E | |
| M | A | X | I | | T | E | A | S | E | | R | O | T | S |
| O | V | E | R | | E | A | G | E | R | | D | E | C | K |
| G | E | N | E | | D | R | E | S | S | | | S | H | Y |

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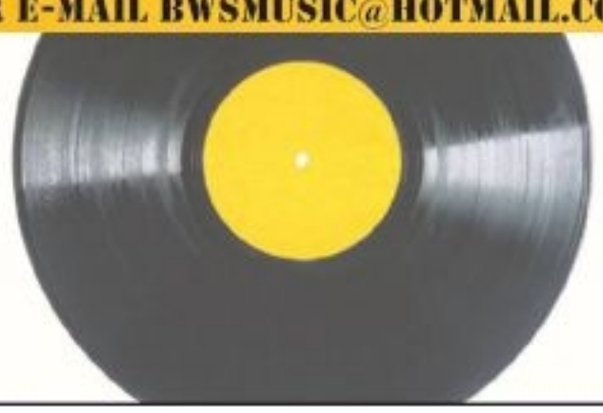

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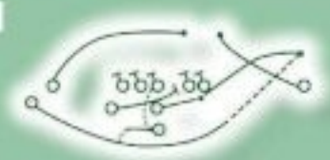

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